

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-07 INR-07 SS-15 L-03 SP-02 PRS-01

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APPROVED BY PM/NPO:LVNOSENZO

EA/ROC - MR. LEVIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 064734

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MARR, MNUC

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR POWERED WARSHIP (NPW) VISITS TO TAIWAN

REF: TAIPEI 01640

1. WE APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S COMMENTS (REFTEL) CONCERNING NPW PORT VISITS TO TAIWAN. EMBASSY INFORMATION CONCERNING PREVIOUS NPW VISITS TO TAIWAN IS ESSENTIALLY CORRECT. OUR RECORDS INDICATE USS BAINBRIDGE (CRUISER) CONDUCTED THE FIRST NPW VISIT IN JUNE 1969, AND USS SEADRAGON (SUBMARINE) MADE THE LAST VISIT IN MARCH 1972. THESE VISITS WERE COMPLETED WITHOUT INCIDENT OR MAJOR PROBLEMS AND RESULTED IN LITTLE PUBLICITY.

2. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF THE SENSITIVITIES SURROUNDING OUR CHINA POLICY SINCE THAT TIME CURRENT INSTRUCTIONS REQUIRE WASHINGTON COORDINATION AND CLEARANCE FOR NPW VISITS TO TAIWAN. NAVY HAS NOT PUSHED RECENTLY FOR PORT VISITS
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THERE. ALSO OUR CURRENT NPW PORT ACCESS NEEDS ARE NOT

QUITE SO ACUTE IN THE NORTH WESTERN PACIFIC AS ELSEWHERE.
THEREFORE ON BALANCE, AND IN CONSIDERATION OF THE POTENTIAL
POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS VIS A VIS THE PRC, DEPARTMENT DOES
NOT WISH TO RESUME ROUTINE NPW VISITS TO TAIWAN AT THIS
TIME.

3. IF ROC PURSUES NPW VISIT, TDC SHOULD REFER MATTER TO
WASHINGTON CHANNELS. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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